

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JPLYLE/NEA/RA:DMORRISON:BH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, ENRG, KU

SUBJECT: KUWAIT AROMATICS PROJECT: QUERY WHETHER PARTICIPATION WOULD BE HINDERED BY ASSOCIATION WITH BRAZILIAN JEWISH SHAREHOLDER

REF: (A) KUWAIT 3322 (B) KUWAIT 130 (C) STATE 68642
(D) STATE 68643

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1. PARA 3 REFTTEL (A) INDICATES THAT BOYCOTT-RELATED PROBLEM

ARISES FROM INVOLVEMENT OF PARENT COMPANY (HOECHST) IN PURCHASE OF BRAZILIAN COMPANY WHOSE MAJOR SHAREHOLDER IS JEWISH.

2. AS EMBASSY AWARE, KUWAITI AMBASSADOR ALONG WITH OTHER ARAB AMBASSADORS HERE HAS MADE POINT OF GIVING ASSURANCES (REFTELS C AND D) THAT RELIGION OR CREED BEARS NO RELATIONSHIP TO THE ARAB BOYCOTT.

3. ALSO, EMBASSY REPORTING (REFTEL B) HAS INDICATED THAT IT IS NOT KUWAITI POLICY TO DISCRIMINATE ON BASIS OF RELIGION.

4. SINCE REFTEL A'S REPORT OF KUWAITI ATTITUDES CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH GOK'S OWN DESCRIPTION OF ITS BOYCOTT POLICIES

(REFTELS C AND D), WOULD APPRECIATE FURTHER EMBASSY INVESTIGATION OF ACCURACY ALLEGED ROLE RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION IN KUWAITI AROMATICS PROJECT.

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Message Attributes

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